

**INFORMAL MINUTES
of the
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Thursday, June 23, 2016**

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 4:36 p.m. by Tom Brandt, Commissioner, in the Sierra Room at the Reedley Community Center, 100 N. East Avenue, Reedley, CA 93654. No quorum was present. The meeting continued informally.

1. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS
 - A. Commissioners Present: Tom Brandt; Dolores Payan (arrived at 4:55 p.m.)
 - B. Commissioners Absent: Excused - Pamela Melville, Chairperson; Stephen Penner, Vice Chairperson; John Kellogg.
 - C. Youth Representatives: Present – Selena Garcia; Lauren Tavlan.
 - D. Staff Present: Sarah Reid, Community Services Superintendent; Denise Phariss, Administrative Assistant.
 - E. Others Present: Youth Representative Candidates - Lorena Orozco, Georgina Ceden, Keith Alvarado, Crystal Martinez, Amber Carter.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the April 28, 2016 meeting were tabled due to lack of quorum.
3. PUBLIC DISCUSSION – None.
4. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS – None.
5. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. **Recognition of Outgoing Youth Representatives** – Sarah Reid thanked Lauren Tavlan and Selena Garcia for their year of service as Youth Representatives. They were very involved with Community Services Department activities. Sarah presented them with an engraved travel mug with their name and City logo. Selena Garcia thanked staff and the Commission for the opportunity and stated that her favorite memory was being the Easter Bunny at the Easter Carnival. Lauren Tavlan said she had a lot of fun and appreciated being able to serve. She enjoyed seeing what goes on in the community. Lauren also baked cookies and served them to those present.
 - B. **2016-17 Youth Representative Applicants** – Six applications were received. All six were invited to attend tonight's meeting. Keiren Arakawa was the only one unable to attend – he was at a leadership camp and submitted a video so that the Commission could get to know him a little better. Each of the other applicants were given an opportunity to answer two questions, "Why they wanted to serve as a Youth Representative" and "What activities have you participated in?"

Lorena – Wants to get insight into the Commission and gain experience and skills. She's involved in Leo Club, Catholics in Action, Upward Bound, CSF, works 5 hours Monday – Friday at CVS (summer work experience program), softball, tennis and accelerated classes.

Georgina – Wants to serve Reedley. Moved to the area in Junior High. Decided she needed to open herself up in High School. Wants to improve her skills working with people. Looking for inspiration for career direction.

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Involved in Key Club (international service club), Students for Peace, Sustainability Project (to recycle and encourage use of reusable water bottles), Alter Server at her church, swimming and cross country.

Keith – Lived in Reedley all his life. Wants an opportunity to serve his community. Wants to see behind the scenes. Interested in pursuing a City Manager job. He's involved in his church in Visalia, serves 5 hours or more for his Bible class at Immanuel, participated in IServe event for City of Reedley, played varsity golf, track and soccer. Involved in Reedley College Enrichment Program, Reedley College class in high school and AP classes.

Crystal – Looking for experience and involvement in community. Serves as Sergeant in Reedley Police Explorers. That made her realize that we live in a small town, but have lots of events. She's also involved in Academic Decathlon, AVID, Peace Building Initiative. She realized she was short on sports so signed up for Cross Country this summer. Also involved in Generation Green, attended Wilderness Challenge and is working in Summer Day Camp.

Amber – Wants to serve. Her goal is to attend Fresno State and then return to Reedley. Her parents have instilled in her an emphasis on service. Has ties to the Community Center – working as Lifeguard and swim instructor, and worked in Summer Day Camp. She enjoys teaching kids how to swim and keep them safe around water. She gives private lessons at home, taking AP classes this summer, applying for Smittcamp Scholarship and at Long Beach, played tennis, varsity swim, Peace Group at First Mennonite Church and involved at Reedley Mennonite Brethren Church. Has volunteered at school and Fresno Rescue Mission.

Keiren – Submitted video interview. Wants to serve his community and has a job interest in Recreation. Serves as the RHS Leo Club president, his church's youth group president, Student Council, ASB, and has worked as a Recreation Leader in Summer Day Camp. Currently is lifeguarding and teaching swim lessons for the City.

The Commission explained that they will discuss this item after all applicants leave and notify them of their decision by next week.

- C. **Parks and Recreation Month** – A proclamation will be presented at Reedley City Council on Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. All summer staff will be in attendance. The Commission was invited to attend.
- D. **Update of Cricket Hollow Boat Launch Facility Project** – Tabled until next meeting since Joel was unable to attend today.

6. **YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS**

- A. Selena Garcia – Thanked the Commission and staff for the opportunity and experience.
- B. Lauren Tavlan – Expressed her thanks for the opportunity and for the travel mug – she loved it!

7. **STAFF REPORTS**

- A. Sarah Reid, Community Services Superintendent
 - 1) Adult Softball – 24 teams with 15-20 players each
 - 2) Jr. Giants – 21 teams, 45-50 coaches

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- 3) Summer Day Camp – 25-30 children each day
 - 4) TL Reed Summer Program – 185 students
 - 5) Washington Summer Program – 100 students
 - 6) Aquatics – Swim lessons are nearly sold out
 - 7) In all summer programs, employee approximately 75 seasonal employees
 - 8) Movies in the Park – Zootopia was shown at the last Movie in the Park. Animal masks were given to the first 50 people. Staff had fun posing for pictures in them. Kung Fu Panda will be the next movie – in July.
8. YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED – The Youth Rep applicants were excused at this point so that the Commission could decide on who will serve with them for the 2016-17 school year. After reviewing their applications and going over their answers to the questions presented, the Commission was torn as to which two to chose. Some suggestions discussed were: grade point average, which high school they attend, female vs. male, activities involved in, etc. Staff also gave input with the applicants that have been involved in City activities. Each commissioner present was asked to choose their top two. The four names mentioned will be sent to the commissioners not at the meeting to pick their top two. The ones with the most votes will be chosen. Denise will email them for their votes. Candidates will be notified by the end of the following week. Commissioners and staff all agreed that each of the six candidates would be great choices.
9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS – None.
10. ADJOURNMENT
As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Phariss, Administrative Assistant

Tom Brandt, Acting Chairperson

Sarah Reid, CS Superintendent